

DMV QUICKTIPS Seat Belts & Child Safety Seats



No exceptions. No excuses.
BUCKLE UP NEVADA

The Laws of Nevada

Nevada Revised Statutes 484.641 and 484.474 require that front and rear seat occupants of almost all passenger vehicles wear safety belts or ride in an approved child restraint system.

The Laws of Physics

If you crash or slam on your brakes, your car comes to a sudden stop. But you will keep moving until you, too, are stopped – by the windshield, dashboard, pavement or seat belt.

All children ages 12 and under should sit in the **back seat, properly restrained** whenever possible. It's safer!

Have Air Bags?

Buckle Up Anyway!



Air bags are more effective when you're buckled up. You should be seated at least 10" away from the air bag as measured from the center of the steering wheel to your breastbone.

Air bags should be turned off only for those with certain medical conditions, those who cannot sit 10" away and those who must transport young children in the front seat. Call 888-DASH-2-DOT or visit www.nhtsa.gov for more information.

NEVER place a rear-facing child safety seat in front of an air bag! Children under 12 should ride in the back.

Expectant mothers should buckle up and leave the air bag on. Never place the lap belt above or on your belly.



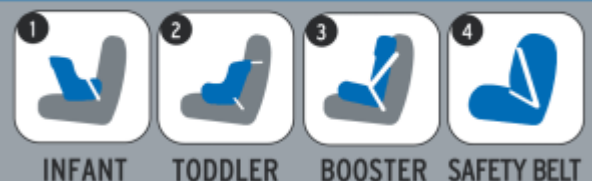
Kids Aren't Cargo!

Passengers under 18 may not ride in the back of a pickup or flatbed truck. This now applies in all Nevada counties and on all types of roads. The law does not apply, however, to farming and ranching activity, parades or to camper shells or slide-in campers. (NRS 484.473)

Booster seats are now Nevada law!

As of June 1, 2004, any child less than 6 years of age who weighs less than 60 pounds must ride in an approved child restraint system. (NRS 484.474) Current law applies to children under age 5 who weigh less than 40 pounds. Don't wait! Get a booster seat now.

4 STEPS FOR KIDS



- Use **REAR FACING INFANT SEATS** in the back seat from birth to at least one year old and at least 20 pounds.
- Use **FORWARD FACING TODDLER SEATS** in the back seat from age one to at least age five and 40 pounds.
- Use **BOOSTER SEATS** in the back seat from age five and 40 pounds to at least age 9 and 80 pounds. Boosters should be used for any child who cannot sit with his back straight against the vehicle seat back with knees bent over the seat edge without slouching.
- Use **SAFETY BELTS** at age nine or older and at least 80 pounds. All children 12 and under should ride in the back seat.

Remember

- Never use just a lap belt across a child sitting in a booster seat designed for shoulder belts.
- Never use pillows, books, or towels to boost a child. They can slide around.
- Never put a shoulder belt behind anyone's arm or back because it eliminates the protection for the upper part of the body and increases the risk of severe injury in a crash.

Did you know? Four of five child safety seats are installed improperly. Call for a regularly-scheduled, free safety seat inspection in your area.

Las Vegas - Safe Kids Coalition - (702) 731-8666
Reno - REMSA Point of Impact - (775) 858-5437
Elko - Nevada Highway Patrol - (775) 753-1253
Statewide – Office of Traffic Safety – (775) 687-3303



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DMV Older Drivers QUICK TIPS

Most older people are capable and have a lifetime of valuable driving experiences. For these reasons, decisions about a person's ability to drive should never be based on age alone. However, changes in vision, physical fitness and reflexes may cause safety concerns. People who accurately assess these changes can adjust their driving habits so that they stay safe on the road or choose other kinds of transportation.

Real Risks for Older Drivers

- In 2000, older adults made up nine percent of the U.S. population but accounted for 13 percent of all traffic fatalities. (NHTSA)
- Drivers age 55 and over are involved in more crashes per mile driven compared with drivers 30-54. (AARP)
- In crashes of equal intensity, those 75 and older are three times more likely to die than a 20-year-old and 80-year-olds are four times more likely. (U.S. DOT)



Self Awareness
Is the Key to
Safe Driving

What You Can Do

- Be aware of the physical limitations which come with aging and how they may affect driving:
 - loss of visual acuity
 - diminished hearing
 - changes in physical strength
 - slower reaction time
 - side effects of medication
- Plan your routes and keep to the plan. Avoid heavy traffic and driving at night. Do practice runs for new routes and trips you must make at night.
- Listen to what people tell you who know you best and care about you most.
- Discuss driving with your doctor. He or she can evaluate the interactions and side effects of all the medications you may be taking.
- Refresh your knowledge of safe driving practices and learn about new traffic control and roadway design features through a mature driver class.
- Begin planning for alternative ways of meeting your transportation needs. Learn about transportation options in your community, then try them out to see which options work best for you.

Talk Now, Plan for Later

It's not easy to think about growing old, much less to talk about it. Bringing up the subject of safe driving may be awkward but, if you can talk now, you and your family can have a plan for the coming years. Here are some tips for making conversation easier:

- **Recognize** that an older driver is not necessarily an unsafe driver. Make decisions based on the specific needs of the person and the situation.
- **Acknowledge** that giving up or limiting driving is a big deal – symbolically and practically – for most older drivers.
- **Emphasize** that safety is most important.
- **Review** specific transportation needs and develop a way to accommodate them.
- **Agree** together on a plan of action. It may begin with avoiding risky driving situations, seeking education, rehabilitation or adaptive equipment and eventually lead to giving up the keys.

It may be helpful to gain an objective assessment of driving abilities rather than relying on personal assumptions or misperceptions. Look into the AARP's Driver Safety Program, AAA's Mature Operators Programs or contact a Certified Driving Rehabilitation Specialist through www.aded.net.

There are no age restrictions or age-based testing requirements to hold a Nevada driver license. However, the Department of Motor Vehicles can require potentially unsafe drivers of any age to submit to vision, knowledge and skills testing. Physicians, law enforcement officers and concerned citizens may contact the Driver License Review section for more information.

Older Driver Resources

AARP Driver Safety Program

1-888-227-7669 or www.aarp.org/drive

AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety

www.seniordrivers.org

Nevada DMV Drivers License Review

555 Wright Way
Carson City, NV 89711
(775) 684-4876
www.dmvnv.com



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Nevada Teen Driving QUICK TIPS

Driver Education

Nearly all Nevada beginning drivers under 18 must complete a drivers education course from a public school or a private professional driving school. Exceptions are not made for home-schooled students. You can enroll at age 15. The course is not required to obtain an instruction permit. It *is* required for a driver license in urban areas and any rural area where a course is offered in high school.

Instruction Permit Requirements

You must be 15½ years old and present proof of your name, date of birth and social security number. This is typically a state-issued birth certificate and a social security card. You must be a Nevada resident and provide a Nevada street address. Your parent or guardian must be present to sign a financial responsibility statement. You must pass the vision and knowledge tests and pay the licensing fee of \$21.75.

Buckle Up!

Motor vehicle **crashes are the leading cause of death** for 15 to 20 year olds in the United States. (CDC)

Your younger **brothers and sisters** and all children under age 12 should sit **in the back seat**, properly restrained. **It's safer!**



Driver License Requirements

While driving with an instruction permit, you must have a licensed driver 21 years or older who has been licensed for at least one year seated next to you at all times.

You must complete a minimum of 50 hours of behind the wheel experience. A parent or guardian attests that this training has been completed when you apply for your license.

To apply for a driver license, you must have held an instruction permit for at least:

- 90 days if you were under the age of 16 when the permit was issued.
- 60 days if you were at least 16 but under 17 when the permit was issued.
- 30 days if you were at least 17 but under 18 when the permit was issued. (NRS 483.250)

Skills Test & Getting Your License

You must be at least 15¾ years old to apply for a drivers license. Contact the DMV to schedule a skills test when you have met all of the requirements. Be sure to bring:

- Instruction Permit
- Parent or Guardian
- Driver Education Certificate (if applicable)
- Vehicle with Valid Registration and Insurance

The examiner will inspect the vehicle for safety and give you instructions on where to drive for the test. Serious traffic violations result in automatic failure. Examiners use a point system to grade other aspects of performance.

If you fail, the examiner will explain why and instruct you on how to take the test again. If you pass, a driver license with a new photograph will be issued for a fee of \$2.25.

KNOW YOUR LIMITS!
Inexperience
+ Distractions
= Crashes & Injuries

Driving Restrictions

It is illegal to drive in violation of any local curfew law. (NRS 484.466)

Young drivers cannot transport any passenger under the age of 18, except for immediate family members, for one of the following time periods after the license was issued:

- 90 days if you were under the age of 16 when the license was issued.
- 60 days if you were at least 16 but under 17 when the license was issued.
- 30 days if you were at least 17 but under 18 when the license was issued. (NRS 483.253)

Permit/License Cancellation or Suspension

Driving is a privilege, not a right. The parent or guardian who signed the financial responsibility statement for a driver under 18 years of age may cancel the license or permit by completing the DMV Minor Affidavit, Form DLD 38.

Courts can suspend your current or future driving privileges for any of the same reasons as adult licenses and also for alcohol/drug convictions, firearms violations or habitual truancy. (NRS Chap. 62)



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Speeding and Aggressive Driving

Speed Limits Are More than a Sign

Nevada has a Basic Rule for driving at a "reasonable or proper" speed. (NRS 484.361) In addition to any posted speed limits you must also consider:

- The amount and type of traffic.
- The weather and the distance you can see.
- The type of road and condition of the surface.

The Basic Rule means you *never* drive at a speed that endangers you or anyone else.

The next time you want to speed ask yourself:

- Why am I in a hurry?
- Does it really matter?
- Is it worth endangering myself and others?



Traffic crashes **are not** "accidents".
They are both **predictable** and **preventable**.
Stay safe – **Buckle Up** on Every Trip!

New Traffic Laws You Should Know

Here are some important new laws passed by the 2003 Nevada Legislature.

- **Double Penalties in Work Zones.** This penalty now may apply regardless of whether workers are present. Courts may double the fine, community service or jail terms for traffic offenses committed in highway work zones up to certain maximums. The area must be marked as a double-penalty zone. (Assembly Bill (AB) 444 – Effective 10/01/03)
- **Flagpersons.** A driver who disobeys a flagperson and causes injury to a road worker or more than \$1,000 in damage is subject to a fine of at least \$1,000 and 120 hours of community service. This may be doubled under the double penalty law. (AB 444 – Eff. 10/01/03)
- **Stopped Emergency Vehicles.** If you are approaching a stopped emergency vehicle displaying its flashing lights, you must slow down to a reasonable speed which is less than the posted limit and, if possible, drive in a lane which is not adjacent to the lane in which the emergency vehicle is stopped. (AB 299 – Eff. 10/01/03)
- **School Zones.** You must wait for all persons, including the crossing guard, to completely clear the road before proceeding. (AB 42 – Eff. 07/01/03)

What Is Aggressive Driving?

Aggressive driving is all around us. Most of us see it every day - the road racer, the red light runner, the tailgater, the frequent lane changer.

Nevada law makes aggressive driving an offense in and of itself. If a driver speeds, creates an immediate hazard and commits two other offenses such as red light running or tailgating over the course of one mile, he may be prosecuted for aggressive driving independently of the other offenses. (NRS 484.3765)

Penalties are traffic school and possible driver license suspension for the first offense. Courts must impose a one-year driver license revocation for a second conviction within two years.

"Road rage" is considered only one part of aggressive driving behavior – the part which goes beyond traffic offenses into criminal activity.

Avoid a Problem

Here's what to do if you are confronted with an aggressive driver.

- **Get Out of the Way.** First and foremost make every attempt to get out of their way.
- **Put Your Pride Aside.** Do not challenge them by speeding up or attempting to hold-your-own in your travel lane.
- **Avoid Eye Contact.** Eye contact can sometimes enrage an aggressive driver.
- **Gestures.** Ignore gestures and refuse to return them.
- **Report Serious Aggressive Driving.** You or a passenger may call the police. If you use a cell phone, pull over to a safe location.

Don't Be a Problem

Plan ahead and give yourself extra time.

- **Concentrate.** Don't allow yourself to become distracted by talking on your cellular phone, eating, drinking or putting on makeup.
- **Relax.** Tune the radio to your favorite relaxing music. Music can calm your nerves and help you to enjoy your time in the car.
- **Drive the Posted Speed Limit.** Fewer crashes occur when vehicles are travelling at or about the same speed.
- **Identify Alternate Routes.** Even if it looks longer on paper, you may find it is less congested.
- **Use Public Transportation.** Public transportation can give you some much-needed relief from life behind the wheel.
- **Just be Late.** If all else fails, just be late. A ticket or a crash will cost you much more time.



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DMV Driving Under The Influence QUICK TIPS

.08 Is Now Nevada Law!

Illegal Per Se Law

"Illegal per se" means that the operation of a vehicle by a person with a blood alcohol content (BAC) at or above the legally defined threshold constitutes an offense of impaired driving in and of itself. Nevada's blood alcohol limit is .08 as of September 23, 2003. The limit is .04 for commercial drivers and .02 for drivers under 21. Note that these limits are only guides. Drivers can be arrested and convicted for DUI with a lower BAC reading or for driving under the influence of controlled or prohibited substances. (NRS 484.379)



Implied Consent Law

You cannot refuse testing! A person driving or in actual physical control of a vehicle is deemed to have given his consent to breath or blood testing. Refusal is grounds for an arrest. (NRS 484.382 and 484.383) Law enforcement may use reasonable force to obtain blood samples. (NRS 484.386)



Call **Star NHP** on your cellular phone to report drunk drivers.

How to Spot a Drunk Driver and What to Do

These warning signs should be your signal to take down a license plate number and vehicle description to report to the proper authorities. Do not attempt to stop or follow the vehicle.

- Weaving, swerving, wide turns, straddling lanes
- Sudden stops, delayed starts, driving too slowly
- Rapid acceleration or deceleration
- Driving with headlights off at night
- Appearing to be drunk – drinking in vehicle, face close to windshield, lack of peripheral vision

Local Resources

Stop DUI

Las Vegas – (702) 456-7867

Mothers Against Drunk Driving

Reno – (775) 322-8852

Winnemucca – (775) 625-3500

Dayton – (775) 246-7522



Below are penalties for a typical DUI first offense. Penalties for subsequent convictions are harsher. A third DUI within seven years or a DUI which involves death or substantial bodily harm are felony offenses.

DUI Penalties

Criminal

- Arrest
- Vehicle Impounded
- Two days to six months in jail or community service
- Fine \$400 to \$1,000
- Chemical Test Fee \$60
- DUI School or Substance Abuse Treatment
- Victim Impact Panel

Driver License

- License revoked for 90 days
- \$65 Reinstatement Fee
- \$35 Victims Compensation Civil Penalty
- \$21.75 Driver License Fee
- DMV Tests – Vision, Knowledge, possibly Skills
- SR-22 Certificate of Liability Insurance required for three years.

A driver license revocation is a separate action from any criminal case. Motorists may appeal a revocation through the DMV Office of Administrative Hearings.

License reinstatement is not automatic, even if the criminal charges were reduced or dismissed. You must meet reinstatement requirements and physically obtain a license to regain your driving privilege.

A revocation which is not reinstated will remain on your record indefinitely and you will not be able to obtain a driver license in any state.

Your Record

Records of a DUI arrest and/or conviction remain in criminal history files for the rest of your life. A DUI committed more than seven years after a prior conviction is treated as a first offense.

Convictions and license revocations remain on your full DMV record for the rest of your life. DMV reports DUI convictions to insurance companies and employers for three years. A license revocation is reported until the driving privilege is reinstated.



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DMV Trailer Safety & Licensing QUICK TIPS

Safety Basics

Read your vehicle/trailer manuals and consult with a knowledgeable dealer or other source *before* you buy. Ensure the tow vehicle is large enough for the trailer and the hitch and electrical systems are compatible.

Take time to practice before driving on main roads. Before you leave, remember to check routes and restrictions on bridges and tunnels. Never allow anyone to ride in or on a trailer.

General Handling

- Drive at moderate speeds. Trailer instability (sway) is more likely to occur as speed increases.
- To control swaying caused by wind buffeting and air pressure changes from passing vehicles, slow down and keep a firm grip on the steering wheel.
- Make wider turns at curves and corners.



If you tow a trailer that is **wider** than your tow vehicle, you will need **extended side-view mirrors**.

Braking

- Allow considerably more distance for stopping.
- Do not use the tow vehicle brakes to control trailer sway. Activate the electric brake controller by hand if equipped.
- Always anticipate the need to slow down. To reduce speed, shift to a lower gear and press the brakes lightly.
- On long downgrades, apply brakes at intervals. Brakes may overheat if used excessively.

Backing Up with a Trailer

- Put your hand at the bottom of the steering wheel. To turn left, move your hand left. To turn right, move your hand right. Back up slowly. Have someone outside at the rear of the trailer to guide you whenever possible.
- Use slight movements of the steering wheel to adjust direction. If you have difficulty, pull forward and start again.

Parking

- Try to avoid parking on grades.
- If possible, have someone outside to guide you as you park.
- Do not overload your transmission. Once stopped, but before shifting into Park, have someone place blocks on the downhill side of the trailer wheels. Apply the parking brake, shift into Park, and then remove your foot from the brake pedal.

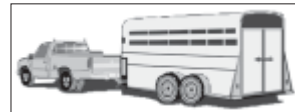
Driver Licensing

Nevada issues commercial and non-commercial driver licenses in four classes. The majority of private motorists have a Class C license, which is adequate for most RV and trailer combinations.

Nevada does require special endorsements for a Class C license to tow large or multiple trailers. Additional knowledge and skills tests are required.

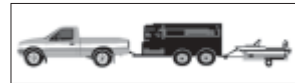
Endorsement J

Allows Class C to tow trailers in excess of 10,000 pounds.



Endorsement R

Allows Class C to tow multiple trailers with a total combined vehicle and trailer weight of under 10,000 pounds.



The total length of a vehicle and trailer combination driven with a Class C license cannot exceed 70 feet.

If the gross weight of any vehicle or combination of vehicles and trailers exceeds 26,000 pounds, you must have a Class A or B license.

Planning Your Trip

State laws vary on allowable vehicle types and weights, especially on multiple trailers.

Many highways also have specific restrictions.

Contact state law enforcement and highway departments *before* you leave.

Internet links to all 50 states are available at www.dmvnv.com

Do I Need a Commercial License?

The answer is "yes" if you operate paid tours or vacation packages, any type of for-hire transportation or any pickup and delivery service.

Commercial use is also subject to higher liability insurance requirements and state and federal regulation. See the DMV's Vehicles in Business web page at www.dmvnv.com/busguide.html.

Commercial Driver License Offices

Carson City	(775) 684-4368
Elko	(775) 753-1126
North Las Vegas	(702) 486-5655
Sparks	(775) 688-2535
Winnemucca	(775) 623-6515



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DMV Motorcycle Safety & Licensing QUICK TIPS

Start Seeing Motorcycles

There are many more cars and trucks on the road than motorcycles. It's easy to miss or ignore a motorcycle, especially at night.

Watch for motorcycles specifically, especially when making left turns. Motorcycles are easily hidden by objects inside or outside of a car.

Over one-half of motorcycle/car crashes are caused by drivers entering a rider's right-of-way. (MSF)

Don't think of it as a
motorcycle.



Think of it as a **person!**

What All Drivers Should Know

- **Assume a motorcycle is closer than it looks.** Motorcycles look further away than they are and seem to move slower than they really do.
- **Allow more following distance.** Keep three to four seconds behind a motorcycle. Motorcyclists often slow down without using the brakes, thus not activating the brake light.
- **Make sure the turn signal is for real.** Motorcycle turn signals are usually not self-canceling.
- **Use extra caution with passengers.** A passenger complicates a motorcyclist's task. Balance is more difficult. Stopping distance is increased.
- **Don't crowd them.** Maneuverability is one of a motorcycle's better characteristics, but only at slower speeds with good road conditions. They can't always dodge out of the way.

Motorcycle Traffic Laws

Motorcyclists have the same rights and the same responsibilities as other drivers in Nevada. There are also some special conditions:

- Motorcyclists must wear helmets in Nevada.
- Motorcyclists have the right to use a complete traffic lane. Two motorcycles may share a lane if the operators both agree to do so.
- Motorcyclists may not pass or ride next to another vehicle in the same travel lane.
- Motorcycles may not be driven between vehicles in adjacent lanes even if the vehicles are stopped. Police officers are an exception. (NRS Chapter 486)

Gonna Ride?

Take a Course – Get the License

Riding a motorcycle is an enjoyable and challenging pastime. The best thing you can do for your safety and your family is to take a rider education course and get a Class M driver license.

"The More You Know, the Better It Gets."

Rider education courses are fun and you come away with the knowledge of what you and your machine can do. Call the Nevada Rider Motorcycle Safety Program at 1-800-889-8779 or find the next course near you and register online at www.nevadarider.com.



Class M Driver License Requirements

If you already have a Nevada driver license, adding Class M is simple:

- Take a Nevada Rider Course. A motorcycle is provided and no instruction permit is necessary.
- Present the Certificate of Completion at the DMV to receive a new license. No additional tests are required.

You also have the option of taking the DMV Knowledge Test, obtaining an Instruction Permit and then taking the DMV Skills Test. Nevada transfers most motorcycle licenses or endorsements from other states.

Mopeds and Off-Road Vehicles

A motorcycle or moped must have the proper safety equipment (lights, horn, front and rear brakes, etc.) to be driven on any public street.

Mopeds 50cc and under do not have to be registered in Nevada and you do not need a Class M driver license. However, you *must* have a normal Class C or higher license to operate any motorized vehicle on any public street.

Other vehicles with a small engine, such as "gopeds," are considered off-road motor vehicles. It is illegal to operate them on public streets.

Nevada has no other restrictions on off-road vehicles. No license or registration is necessary and there are no age restrictions.



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DMV Pedestrian Safety QUICK TIPS

A Two-Way Street

Pedestrian safety is the responsibility of both the pedestrian and the motorist. Both cause crashes!

Nevada consistently ranks among the 10 worst states for pedestrian fatalities. Nearly 90 percent of pedestrians and drivers involved in fatal crashes have local addresses. It's not the visitors!

(NHTSA and UNLV TRC)

Crosswalks

A crosswalk exists at any intersection, whether it's marked, and wherever one is marked.

(NRS 484.043)

Drivers

- Must exercise due care to avoid a collision with a pedestrian at all times. (NRS 484.3245)
- Must yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. (NRS 484.325)
- Must yield at all times to a blind person using a white cane or service animal. (NRS 484.328)
- Must stop or slow down before passing another vehicle stopped in a travel lane until the driver has determined whether that vehicle has stopped for a pedestrian. (NRS 484.325)
- Must, at school zones, wait for all people, including the crossing guard, to completely clear the road before proceeding. (2003 NV Assembly Bill 42)

Look **Left, Right** and Then **Left Again** before Crossing



The **Flashing** Hand means:

- **Finish** crossing if started
- **Don't start** crossing

Pedestrians

- Must use the sidewalk and the nearest crosswalk, pedestrian bridge or tunnel.
- Must obey official traffic-control signals.
- Must stay in the right-hand half of the crosswalk whenever practicable.
- Must walk on the left side of the street facing traffic if no sidewalk is available.
- Must not suddenly walk into the path of a vehicle so that it is impossible for the vehicle to yield.
- May not cross an intersection diagonally unless the intersection is specifically designed for this. (NRS 484.325 through 484.331)

Safety Tips for Walkers

- **Walk on the Sidewalk.** If there is no sidewalk and you have to walk in the road, walk on the left facing traffic.
- **Cross at Intersections.** Most people are hit by cars when they cross the road at places other than intersections. Walk the extra distance! Use marked crosswalks and obey the signals.
- **Look Left, Right and Left Again.** Stop at the curb and look left, right and left again for traffic. Stopping at the curb signals drivers that you intend to cross.
- **See and Be Seen**
 - Drivers need to see you to avoid you.
 - Stay out of the driver's blind spot.
 - Make eye contact with drivers when crossing busy streets.
 - Wear bright clothing even during the day and reflective clothing at night.
 - Carry a flashlight when walking in the dark.



Safe Walking
leads to...



Safe Cycling
leads to...



Safe Driving!

Children are **Not Small Adults!**

Children enjoy walking, riding bikes and playing outside. They can understand basic safety rules but they don't have the judgment to cope with traffic until at least age 10. Some points to keep in mind:

- Children assume that if they see the driver, the driver sees them.
- They can't judge speed and they think cars can stop instantly.
- They are shorter than adults and can't see over cars, bushes and other objects.
- They often act before thinking and may not do what parents or drivers expect.



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DMV Bicycle Safety QUICK TIPS

Share the Road

Bicyclists have the same rights and the same responsibilities as other drivers in Nevada. Cyclists are required to ride as far to the right as practicable. They must obey all traffic signs and signals and use hand signals for turns and stops.

Rules for Motorists

- Yield to cyclists at intersections as you would for other vehicles and pedestrians.
- Do not drive or park in designated bicycle lanes or paths unless you are turning or in an emergency.
- Pass a cyclist only when it is safe. Cyclists may need to swing out to avoid holes, grass or other hazards. It is the motorist's responsibility to pass a cyclist safely. (NRS 484.324)
- Extend special courtesy and care to inexperienced riders, especially children.

Rules for Cyclists

- Always ride on the RIGHT and as far right as practicable. Ride single file in traffic.
- Obey all signs and signals. Know your road signs and teach them to children.
- Use hand signals for turns and stops.
- Always check behind you before changing lanes.
- Don't swerve or make sudden turns.
- Ride at least three feet away from parked cars and the curb.
- LISTEN for cars approaching from the side or rear.
- Don't follow cars too closely. You may be in their blind spot.
- Always be prepared to stop. Keep your hands on or close to the brakes.
- Check your bike's mechanical condition before every ride. Brakes are required under Nevada law.
- It is illegal to cling to another vehicle while riding a bicycle. (NRS 484.507)



Night Riding

See and be seen. Wear bright clothing during the day and reflective clothing at night. Bicycles ridden at night *must* have:

- A white lamp in the front visible from at least 500 feet away.
- A red tail reflector visible in a vehicle's low beams from 300 feet away.
- Reflective material on the sides of the bike visible in low beams from at least 600 feet away or a lamp visible from both sides from 500 feet away. (NRS 484.513)



Bicycle Safety Begins with the Proper Fit

Get the Correct Sizes

Big bikes and helmets to "grow into" are not safe.



Children: Sit on the seat with knees straight and feet flat on the ground.

Adults: Sit on the seat with knee nearly straight when foot is on the pedal in its lowest position.

Insist on Helmets

Bike helmets can reduce the risk of head injury by 85 percent when worn correctly. (NHTSA)



YES!



NO!

- Use foam pads inside to fit the helmet snugly so it doesn't move on the head.
- Fit the helmet so the front is just above the top of the eyebrows.
- Adjust the two side straps so they meet in a "V" right under each ear.
- Adjust the chin strap snugly. Make it tight enough so the helmet pulls down when you open your mouth.
- Replace a helmet which has been in a crash.

Local Resources

Nevada has an active bicycling community devoted both to safety and to enjoyment of the unique riding experiences in the Silver State.

Bicycle Nevada

Information on highways, tours, events, the Nevada Bicycle Advisory Board and State Bicycle Plan.

(775) 888-RIDE

www.bicyclenevada.com

Nevada Office of Traffic Safety

Bicycle education courses and instructor training.

(775) 687-4229

www.ots.state.nv.us/bikeped/



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New Traffic Laws QUICKTIPS

Nevada Laws You Should Know

Here are some important new traffic laws passed by the 2003 Nevada Legislature. A short description of each is followed by its effective date, legislative bill number and applicable Nevada Revised Statute or NRS Chapter.



.08 DUI. The Illegal Per Se limit for driving under the influence of alcohol has been lowered.
(09/23/03 – AB 7 – NRS 484.379)

Seat Belt Use in Taxis. Passengers in taxicabs can be fined \$25 for not wearing seat belts if the cab is equipped with them. The citation may be issued only if the cab is stopped for another offense.
(10/01/03 – AB 226 – NRS 484)

Booster Seats. Children under six years old and 60 pounds will be required to ride in an approved child restraint system. Current law is five years and 40 pounds.
(06/01/04 – SB 166 – NRS 484.474)



School Zones. You must wait for all people, including the crossing guard, to completely clear the road before proceeding.
(07/01/03 – AB 42 – NRS 484)



Kids Aren't Cargo!

Riding in Pickups. Passengers under 18 may not ride in the back of a pickup or flatbed truck. This now applies in all Nevada counties and on all types of roads. The law does not apply, however, to farming and ranching activity, parades or to camper shells or slide-in campers.
(10/01/03 – AB 444 – NRS 484.473)

Blue Tail Lamps. Motorcyclists may now use a blue insert in their tail lamps which does not exceed one inch in diameter. A separate measure (AB 444) also authorizes blue tail lamps on Nevada Department of Transportation vehicles. (10/01/03 – AB 77 – NRS 486.261)

Merging on a Freeway. The existing law has been clarified. Motorists entering a controlled-access highway must yield to the traffic already on the highway.
(10/01/03 – SB 77 – NRS 484.322)



More New Laws

Stopped Emergency Vehicles. If you are approaching a stopped emergency vehicle displaying its flashing lights, you must slow down to a reasonable speed which is less than the posted limit and, if possible, drive in a lane which is not adjacent to the lane in which the emergency vehicle is stopped.
(10/01/03 – AB 299 – NRS 484)

Evading a Peace Officer. The penalty has been doubled for drivers who evade or ignore a peace officer when evading the officer results in death or substantial bodily harm to another person. This felony offense is punishable by two to 15 years in prison, a maximum fine of \$10,000 or both.
(10/01/03 – AB 335 – NRS 484.348)

Double Penalties in Work Zones. This penalty now may apply regardless of whether workers are present. Courts may double the fine, community service or jail terms for traffic offenses committed in highway work zones up to certain maximums. The area must be marked as a double-penalty zone. (10/01/03 – AB 444 – NRS 484.3667)



Flagpersons. A driver who disobeys a flagperson and causes injury to a road worker or more than \$1,000 in damage is subject to a fine of at least \$1,000 and 120 hours of community service. This may be doubled under the double penalty law.
(10/01/03 – AB 444 – NRS 484.254)

Local Resources

Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles

Driver handbooks, testing and online traffic laws.
(775) 684-4368 – www.dmvnv.com

Nevada Office of Traffic Safety

OTS supports safety programs throughout the state.
(775) 687-5720 – www.ots.state.nv.us

Nevada Legislature

Online information on legislative bills, all statutes, administrative code and printed code books.
(775) 684-6800 – www.leg.state.nv.us



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